August 3-5, 2013

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

The Detroit News: Oral arguments to be held today in judicial misconduct case of Judge McCree

"The Michigan Judicial Tenure Commission will hold a hearing at 1 p.m. Monday to hear oral arguments in the judicial misconduct case regarding Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Wade McCree. McCree has been suspended without pay from the bench since February on a complaint of judicial misconduct after he sent a shirtless photo of himself to a female staffer at the court last year."

Full story

Also see:

WJBK-TV(2)/Detroit: Hearing Monday to determine Judge Wade McCree's punishment

Full story

WXYZ-TV(7)/Detroit: Monday hearing to decide future of Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Wade McCree

Full story

Detroit Free Press: Suit filed over Detroit's election inspectors

"... It's not the first time [D. Etta] Wilcoxon and [Detroit Clerk Janice] Winfrey have been on opposing sides of lawsuits. A Michigan Court of Appeals panel criticized last month Winfrey's handling of a dispute over whether Wilcoxon turned in enough signatures to make the ballot in her bid to unseat Winfrey." Full story

Also see:

The Detroit News: Activist, city clerk candidate await decision on attempt to block Detroit primary

Full story

Grand Rapids Press: Obituaries Today: Wendell Miles, 97, former federal judge and 48-year veteran of the bench

"The Honorable Wendell A. Miles, retired U.S. District Judge for the Western District of Michigan, died July 31, 2013 in Grand Rapids. He was 97.... In May 1970, Michigan Gov. William Milliken appointed him judge for the 20th Judicial Circuit in Ottawa and Allegan counties.... A memorial service will be held Monday, Aug. 12 at 7 p.m. at the Porter Hills Meeting House, 3600 E. Fulton, Grand Rapids." *Full story*

Also see:

The Holland Sentinel: Obituary: Judge Wendell Miles, 97 *Full story*

The Hillsdale Daily News: Volunteers are voices for abused, neglected children

"Scores of area children who have been abused, neglected or abandoned enter the foster care system each year. Through the newly-formed Hillsdale CASA Inc., there are volunteers to speak up for these children and make sure they get the help they need through the court system."

Full story

Hometown Life Newspapers: State Supreme Court appeal denied for suspect in Livonia officer's death

"The man accused of killing Livonia police officer Larry Nehasil has had an appeal of his sentence turned down by the Michigan Supreme Court.... The State Supreme Court rejected [Terry] Bowling's appeal, saying it failed to see a reason to hear the appeal in an order [dated July 30.]" Full story

The Ionia Sentinel-Standard Blog: Judge David Hoort's Notebook: Admissibility of prior testimony by a child now emotionally unable to testify

"In People v Duncan, __ Mich __ (#146295, 7/30/2013) the Michigan Supreme Court held that while hearsay is generally inadmissible, the Michigan Rules of Evidence permit certain prior out-of-court statements to be admitted into evidence when a witness is unavailable." Full story

Jackson Citizen Patriot: Jackson business owners named in stormwater lawsuit say city of Jackson should give money back to residents

"Businessman Brian Surgener isn't complaining about the recent Michigan Court of Appeals opinion that ruled the city's stormwater fee is an illegal tax— but he's not entirely satisfied with the decision either. The ruling was released Friday, Aug. 2 and states that the city will have to reimburse those named in the lawsuit, but not residents or other businesses not included in the suit."

Full story

Also see:

Jackson Citizen Patriot: What you need to know about the Jackson stormwater 'tax' Court of Appeals ruling

Full story

The Macomb Daily: Gratiot Cruise offers a "little bit of everything" to car lovers

"... The official start of the cruise came with the VIP parade as numerous dignitaries and elected officials rode in classic cars down the route. David Viviano, the new Supreme Court justice and former Macomb County Circuit Court chief judge, served as the grand marshal."

Full story

Note: The article also ran in the Oakland Press.

The Macomb Daily: Judge keeps Macomb sex offender in prison

"A 50-year-old man will remain in prison for the time-being for the 2006 sexual assaults of a 14-year-old girl, due to a recent ruling by a Macomb County judge. Judge Peter J. Maceroni last month granted Macomb County Prosecutor Eric Smith's request to reverse the state Parole Board and deny the release of David R. Wells."

Full story

Note: The article also ran in the Oakland Press.

Midland Daily News: A new landscape for the Midland County Courthouse

"Since 1926, downtown Midland has featured a historic Tudor-Revival style courthouse. The courthouse saw a major addition in 1958 when a 52-person jail, additional offices, an auditorium and sheriff's living quarters were constructed adjacent to the southwest side. However, following demolition of the 1958 addition in approximately 30 days, visitors to downtown Midland will see the courthouse as it appeared in 1926."

Full story

Muskegon Chronicle: Bullet hole in Muskegon courthouse's new roof blamed for courtroom leak's return

"Muskegon County taxpayers just spent nearly \$200,000 to replace the roof on the county's courthouse, also called the Michael E. Kobza Hall of Justice. The new roof was badly needed: A leak was causing big drops of water to plop down rapidly at multiple spots in Circuit Judge Timothy G. Hicks' top-floor courtroom, among other locations on the courthouse's sixth and fifth floors, every time it rained." *Full story*

The Oakland Press Blog: District Courts in Detroit and Pontiac Fiscally Challenged

"The thing about district courts is the funding to make them operate; district courts do not have uniform funding across the state. Funding for a district court depends on getting money from its political parent (the city or the county, or the state) and from the citizens within the community who get ticketed and brought into the court."

Full story

Petoskey News-Review: Campaign seeks to 'bag' support for foster care

"Child and Family Services of Northwestern Michigan has functional as well as symbolic goals for the small paper bags it's distributing this summer in newspapers. The bags are part of the organization's 24th annual Brown Bag Campaign in support of foster care, and are being distributed through the Petoskey News-Review and other publications around the region."

Full story